

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-104. (Cancelled)

105. (currently amended) An isolated R1 allelic variant consisting of GT dinucleotide repeats from nucleotide position 125 from 5' end of SEQ ID NO:1 of Signal Transducer and Activator of Transcription-6 (STAT-6) gene for use in predicting susceptibility of a human subject to atopic asthma.

106. (Cancelled)

107. (previously presented) An isolated R3 allelic variant consisting of GT dinucleotide repeats from nucleotide position 87 from the 5' end of SEQ ID NO: 2 of Signal Transducer and Activator of Transcription-6 (STAT-6) gene for use in predicting susceptibility of a human subject to atopic asthma.

108-109. (Cancelled)

110. (currently amended) The isolated allelic variant according to claim 105, wherein haplotypes 17\_15 (CA repeat 17 on R1 locus and 15 on R3 locus of the STAT-6 gene having a 'p' value less than 0.0031) and 16\_15 (CA repeat 16 on R1 locus and 15 on R3 locus of the STAT6 gene having a p value less than 0.001) are associated with susceptibility to asthma.

111-116. (Cancelled)

117. (previously presented) The isolated allelic variant according to claim 105, wherein haplotypes 17\_14 (CA repeat 17 on R1 locus and 14 on R3 locus of the STAT-6 gene having a

'p' value less than 0.00001), 23\_16 (CA repeat 23 on R1 locus and 16 on R3 locus of the STAT-6 gene having a 'p' value less than 0.00001) and 24\_16 (CA repeat 24 on R1 locus and 16 on R3 locus of the STAT-6 gene having a 'p' value less than 0.00001) are associated with protection from asthma.

118. (currently amended) The isolated pharmacogenetic markers having SEQ ID NO: 1 and 2 for detecting and predicting a predisposition to atopic asthma of STAT-6 gene in a human subject.

119. (previously presented) The isolated pharmacogenetic markers according to claim 118, wherein SEQ ID NO: 1 is associated with R1 locus and SEQ ID NO: 2 is associated with R3 locus of STAT-6 gene.

120. (Cancelled)